

REMARKS

Consideration of the amendments to the application is respectfully requested. Amendments are made pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.121. No new matter has been added. Claims 1-10 are pending. Claims 7-10 are currently amended.

Regarding paragraphs 1-3 of the Office Action, the abstract has been replaced. Accordingly, applicants request that the objection to the Abstract be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over over Dinallo et al. (US Pat. No. 5,929,857) in view of Casement (US Pat. No. 5,969,748)

In paragraphs 4-7 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dinallo et al. (US Pat. No. 5,929,857) in view of Casement (US Pat. No. 5,969,748). Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Applicant's Invention

The present invention relates to a method and an apparatus for processing program information and portions of program information stored on a storage medium. The portions of program information may include multiple chapters, video streams, audio streams and sub-picture streams, which can be associated with a particular title or titles (specification page 1, line 29 - page 2, line 4). The present invention provides a user interface that allows a viewer to quickly and easily determine what portions of program information are possible and what portions of program information are actually available, and then select a desired one of the available portions of program information.

Storage medium having a large storage capacity, such as a DVD, can include a large number of portions of program information that the user can choose from. However, not all of the possible portions of program information may be authored onto a specific disk. This may cause confusion to a user who wants to find a specific portion of program information, such as a specific language sub-picture stream, but is unable to quickly determine whether the desired portion of program information is possible according to the selected data standard and whether it has actually been authored onto the disk. Therefore, the present invention recognizes that it is desirable to provide a user interface, such as an on-screen display, that informs the user of the possible portions of program information and the portions of program information actually present on a specific disk, and then provides an opportunity to select a desired one of the actually present portions of program information using the user interface. A display for providing such information is illustrated in Figs. 9A-B and their associated description, wherein dots 104 represent portions of program information which could possibly be included, but which are not available on the particular disk, and buttons 103 represent portions of program information that are actually available on the selected disk. Thus, the present user interface goes beyond merely informing the user of the portions of program information available on a specific disk.

With specific reference to Claim 1, Claim 1 recites:

...determining (130,150) all of the possible portions of program information permitted on the storage medium in conformance with the DVD specification,

determining (132,152) the portions of program information actually present on the selected storage medium comprising evaluating control data stored on the selected digital video disk, and

generating (134,154) an on-screen display displaying all of the possible portions of program information permitted on the storage

medium and which of the possible portions of program information are actually present on the selected storage medium, the display allowing the user to select (136,156) one of the portions of program information actually present on the selected storage medium. (Emphasis added)

Dinallo et al.

Dinallo et al. discloses a system for creating a graphic user interface during information playback from commands and attributes extracted from the DVD data stream (see the Abstract). The Examiner's rejection of Claim 1 relies mostly on text set forth in the section titled "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION" in Dinallo et al. The "BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION" in Dinallo et al. only confirms the status of the state of the art with regard to DVD technology, also described by Applicant.

With specific reference to the Examiner's rejection, the Examiner relies on column 1, line 58 in Dinallo et al. for a teaching of *"determining all of the possible portions of program information permitted on the storage medium in conformance with the DVD specification"* (paragraph 6, lines 8-9). Applicant also observes that the Examiner relies on the text in column 1, line 60 for a teaching of *"accessing and processing a first one of the plurality of portions of program information during a playback mode of operation."*

Column 1, lines 58-65 of Dinallo et al. states:

[i]n particular, each DVD-VIDEO disc contains a main directory denoted as a VIDEO_TS directory which contains two types of files distinguished with the file extensions .IFO and .VOB. During playback, these files are stored by a DVD player to form video "title" sets, which are grouping of all files necessary to play a particular DVD video "title", for example, a movie. Each video title set is composed of one .IFO file and one or more .VOB files.

The passage describes, in general terms, the files for storing video or other files on a DVD disc. This passage, as best determined from the limited

disclosure of the “BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION,” only suggests that the VIDEO_TS directory might provide the portions (one or more .VOB files and one .IFO file) of program information “*actually present*” on the storage medium. In contrast, the claimed invention also includes a step for “*determining all of the possible portions of program information permitted on the storage medium in conformance with the DVD specification.*” (Emphasis added)

Accordingly, Dinallo et al. neither teaches nor suggests making a determination for “*all of the possible portions of program information permitted*” and performing two different determination steps— namely, (1) for *all ... permitted* and (2) *actually present* portions of program information.

In addition to the above and as acknowledged by the Examiner, Dinallo et al. does not teach the step of:

generating (134,154) an on-screen display displaying all of the possible portions of program information permitted on the storage medium and which of the possible portions of program information are actually present on the selected storage medium, the display allowing the user to select (136,156) one of the portions of program information actually present on the selected storage medium.

Casement et al.

The Examiner relies upon Casement et al. for details related to the “*generating*” step. While, Casement et al. discloses details related to storing “program information,” in contrast to the present invention, such information is related to program guide information with the capability of controlling access to television programs. In that regard, stored information includes restricted channels based on V-chip classification or other locked channels. The program information of the present invention and as claimed includes *all of*

the possible portions of program information permitted on the storage medium in conformance with the DVD specification. Casement et al. is **completely silent** with regard to generating any display of information permitted in conformance with the DVD specification.

Claim 6 includes limitations similar to those in Claim 1.

In view of the foregoing remarks, applicants submit that Claims 1 and 6 are allowable over the combination of Dinallo et al. in view of Casement et al. and that the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn. Since Claims 2-5 and 7-10 depend from independent Claims 1 and 6, respectively, applicants submit that for the same reasons set forth above with regard to Claims 1 and 6, these dependent claims are also allowable over the combination Dinallo et al. in view of Casement et al. and any the corresponding rejection under 35 USC 103(a) should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over over Dinallo et al. (US Pat. No. 5,929,857) in view of Casement (US Pat. No. 5,969,748) and further in view of Schoner et al. (US Pat. No. 6,493,506)

In paragraphs 8-11 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dinallo et al. (US Pat. No. 5,929,857) in view of Casement (US Pat. No. 5,969,748) and Schoner et al. (US Pat. No. 6,493,506). Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Schoner et al. does not teach the invention as described above in relation to the combination of Dinallo et al. in view of Casement et al. as related to Claims 1 and 6 from which claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 10 depend.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that the rejection of Claims 2, 3, 5, 7, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dinallo et al. in view of Casement et al. and Schoner et al. should be withdrawn.

Rejection under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over over Dinallo et al. (US Pat. No. 5,929,857) in view of Casement (US Pat. No. 5,969,748), Schoner et al. (US Pat. No. 6,493,506) and Moeller et al. (US Pat. No. 5,828,370)

In paragraphs 12-13 of the Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 4 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dinallo et al. (US Pat. No. 5,929,857) in view of Casement (US Pat. No. 5,969,748), Schoner et al. (US Pat. No. 6,493,506) and Moeller et al. (US Pat. No. 5,828,370).

Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection for the reasons set forth below.

Moeller et al. does not teach the invention as described above in relation to the combination of Dinallo et al. in view of Casement et al. as related to Claims 1 and 6 from which claims 4 and 9 depend.

In view of the foregoing, applicants submit that the rejection of Claims 4 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Dinallo et al. in view of Casement, Schoner et al. and Moeller et al. should be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, the Applicant believes that all of the examiner's basis for rejection have been overcome, and that this application therefore stands in condition for allowance. However, if the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Applicant requests that he contact their undersigned attorney at (609) 734-6815 in order to resolve any outstanding issues without the necessity of issuing another Office Action.

Respectfully submitted,

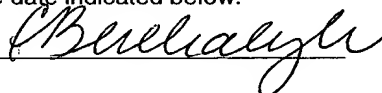
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